Five Year Forest and Range Resource Program 1986–1991

Province of British Columbia
Ministry of Forests

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FIVE YEAR FOREST AND RANGE RESOURCE PROGRAM

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Honourable Jack Heinrich, Minister

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This report presents the province's forest and range resource program, as required under Section 9 of the Ministry of Forests Act. This is the seventh resource program presented to the Legislative Assembly. It outlines the government's intentions for the management of British Columbia's forest and range resources for the five year period beginning April 1, 1986 and ending March 31, 1991.

This report marks the conclusion of a decision-making process which began last year. On September 30, 1985, the Ministry of Forests submitted a report containing alternatives for the management of forest and range resources to the Lieutenant Governor in Council, as required by Section 8 of the Ministry of Forests Act. The alternatives and the ministry's recommendations were discussed within the government. The decisions made are reflected in this resource program.

Some significant new initiatives will be implemented during the next few years. In particular, a new concept of cooperative funding of forest management will begin with the establishment of the Forest Stand Management Fund. This fund will, it is expected, consist of contributions from the provincial government, the forest industry and other sources.

The $300 million Canada - British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement will further expand the level of intensive silviculture, research and pest management activities. The first of five years covered by the agreement has already passed. As planned, more than 90% of funds under the agreement remain for substantially increased activities in each of the next four years.

Planting will continue to increase so that recently denuded forest land is restocked promptly and the backlog of not satisfactorily restocked forest land is reduced. Two hundred million seedlings will be planted under basic and intensive silviculture in 1987/88 and each subsequent year, almost twice the number planted as recently as 1983/84.

The ministry will also increase surveys and road construction to provide earlier detection and treatment of timber attacked by bark beetles and other pests, increase road construction and reforestation for the Small Business Enterprise Program, and increase maintenance and management of the province's range and forest recreation resources.

RESOURCE ANALYSIS, RESOURCE PROGRAM, ANNUAL REPORT

This report, the current resource program, is one of three important reports required by the Ministry of Forests Act: A resource analysis is published periodically, the resource program is updated annually, and an annual report monitors progress.

The 1984 Forest and Range Resource Analysis assessed the condition of provincial forest and range resources, and reviewed the opportunities for their future use. It is a major source of current information and analysis for the government's important task of developing and refining its resource use policies.

The resource program documents the government's forest and range management intentions, selected from alternatives carefully developed by the Ministry of Forests. The alternatives are based on opportunities revealed by the resource analysis. The ministry implements the management objectives set out in the resource program, and strives to achieve the government's goals at specific costs.

The annual report records and evaluates the performance of the ministry in implementing each year of the resource program chosen by government.

These three documents comprise a continuing public record of the Ministry of Forests' management goals, an assessment of issues besetting its programs and an analysis of actual management performance. Their purpose is to promote public awareness and understanding of how the timber and range resource assets are being managed and to enable informed comment about the adequacy and intent of the management programs. The reports can be obtained from the Queen's Printer for British Columbia.

ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORT

Part 2 of this report discusses some important forest and range management issues. These are incorporated in the resource program which will be undertaken over the next five fiscal years, as presented in Part 3.

PART 2: ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

This part presents four important issues in forest and range management which will be addressed by the Ministry of Forests.

FINANCING FOREST MANAGEMENT: THE NEW FOREST STAND MANAGEMENT FUND

The new Forest Stand Management Fund will be used to encourage widespread participation in the management and enhancement of British Columbia's forest and range resources, with an emphasis on employment and training opportunities. The provincial government will provide appropriations, beginning with $20.0 million in 1986/87, which can be supplemented by contributions from the forest industry, the federal government, municipal governments, unions and other sources.

Expenditures from the fund will be for activities that are incremental to those covered by the ministry's forest and range resource program, which remains fully funded. The Forest Stand Management Fund can be used for all operational aspects of the ministry's mandate, from silviculture to range and recreation management.

Activities which can be covered by this fund include increased brushing and weeding, intensive forestry on tree farm licence areas, and employment and training programs.

Brushing and weeding involves manual cleaning or the application of herbicides to allow trees of desired species to reach a 'free-growing stage' above the surrounding, competing vegetation. This activity could be increased by up to 20 000 ha annually over the goals of the five year program, at a cost of $7.2 million annually.

At present, most intensive silviculture activities are funded under the Canada - British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement. This agreement does not fund intensive silviculture on Crown land in tree farm licence areas. The new Forest Stand Management Fund could be used to ensure that a similar level of management is applied on all Crown forest lands. This would involve $4.5 million annually for spacing and $1.25 million annually for fertilization.

The Ministry of Forests and the Ministry of Human Resources can coordinate delivery of employment and training initiatives. For example, the Forest Workers Assistance Program has been very successful in providing employment opportunities for workers dependent on welfare, while enhancing the productivity of the province's forest land.

EXPANSION OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM

The volume of timber logged under the Small Business Enterprise Program (SBEP) has quadrupled in the past four years. This rapid expansion of the SBEP has nearly exhausted accessible timber stands suitable for the program. As a result, an increase in road construction is needed to access more timber. Furthermore, the program's expansion has resulted in a large increase in areas needing site preparation and other silviculture treatments.

Sales under the SBEP are significantly different from other sales of timber. They are made on a competitive basis, with the sale being awarded to the bidder of the largest bonus in addition to appraised stumpage. The bonus payments are directed to a special Small Business Enterprise Account, which is used to fund the program's activities. The SBEP is essentially self-financing.

Revenue from sales under the SBEP has increased along with the volume harvested under the program, from $7.7 million in 1981 to $25.0 million in 1984, as shown in Table 2-A.

Table 2-A: VOLUME AND REVENUE UNDER THE SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM

Year	Volume Billed ('000 m^3)	Revenue ('000$)
1981/82	1,116	7,732
1982/83	1,831	7,674
1983/84	3,341	14,567
1984/85	4,720	24,959

The revenue for 1985/86 was $12.4 million in the first six months and is expected to reach $25-30 million for the full year. Approximately 65% of this, or $16-20 million, will be from bonus bids above appraised stumpage and will be added to the special account. Similar revenue is projected for 1986/87.

During 1985/86, staff in the forest regions provided estimates of funds needed to maintain the SBEP at the present level. Two forest regions required substantial increases over their previous year's request, two requested modest increases and two recommended significant reductions. The SBEP budget for 1985/86 was $12.0 million, which amounted to 75% of the forest regions' estimated requirements.

The continuation and success of the SBEP as a self-financing program is largely dependent on the provision of new roads to access timber and on proper reforestation of harvested areas. Increased expenditure from the Small Business Enterprise Account, for new roads and reforestation, is needed to maintain the program at its present level, and is especially necessary for any further expansion of the program.

RANGELAND CAPACITY

Rangeland capacity can only be maintained with adequate management. The past level of management, if continued, is expected to result in a 5% loss of capacity over the next five years, with further losses in future years. This potential problem can be addressed with increases in:

(1) weed control,
(2) forage seeding,
(3) range improvements, and
(4) management.

Weed control and containment programs can reduce further losses of provincial forage. Epidemic levels of knapweed currently infest about 84 000 ha of rangelands in the province, and displace up to 95% of the forage production in heavy infestations.

Forage quality can be improved by seeding rangeland with forage species which are more palatable and nutritious than native species. Much of the seeding is directed to recent clearcuts where both quantity and quality of forage can be improved. Most importantly, more forage can be made available for summer and fall grazing, which is critical to reducing the costs of herd maintenance through the winter.

Range improvements, such as fencing and water developments, can enhance the quality and quantity of forage for livestock and wildlife, improve soil and site factors and minimize conflicts between resource users. In addition to facilitating use of new areas, range improvements are needed on current sites to ensure their full and proper use.

Management needs include personnel to develop and administer range policy, planning, inventory, mapping and monitoring. Development and implementation of an accurate inventory of Crown rangeland is needed. In addition, a standardized system is required to monitor progress and assist in the evaluation of chosen management strategies.

A loss of rangeland capacity can be prevented by implementing adequate measures over the next five years.

RECREATION RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

Recreation resource values require more management to prevent the loss of important aesthetic and cultural features. Furthermore, many recreation sites and trails are deteriorating and some will have to be closed unless maintenance levels are increased.

The impacts of timber harvesting on recreation resource values can be mitigated by giving adequate consideration to the probable effects of several harvesting alternatives before harvesting begins. Application of landscape management techniques can help prevent adverse public reaction to harvesting in scenically sensitive areas, especially near population centers. Greater use of landscape management concepts is needed.

A recreation corridors policy has been developed by the Ministry of Forests and the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing and approved by the Environment and Land Use Committee. The Ministry of Forests' role in implementing this policy will require a substantial increase in recreation planning and landscape management.

Additional recreation resource management is needed to provide adequate inventories and management of large, remote areas within provincial forests which provide for wilderness recreation.

In the past two years, no new recreation sites and trails have been developed, and sites and trails have been closed due to maintenance not keeping up with the public's use of them. The number of recreation sites peaked at 1130 in 1982 and decreased by 10% to 1020 in 1984. The length of managed recreation trails peaked at 1727 km in 1983 and dropped to 1182 km in 1984.

Further closures are anticipated if maintenance is not increased. High use sites that are difficult to maintain would be closed first. Management of sites and trails on Crown land carries with it a degree of liability, so sites and trails must be closed when safety and sanitary conditions fall below an acceptable minimum level.

With fewer developed sites and trails available, recreationists disperse into unserviced locations and cause undesirable garbage and sanitation problems.

Some new sites and trails must also be developed. Rustic recreation sites may have a limited lifetime, after which they must be closed and replaced with new sites. Also, as new forest roads provide access to new areas, these areas will be used for recreation by the public and it is desirable to contain and manage this use by providing adequate facilities.

Recreation management is an important part of the ministry's mandate which can and must be more fully addressed with relatively small additional expenditures.

PART 3: THE FOREST AND RANGE RESOURCE PROGRAM

This part presents the five year forest and range resource program to be implemented by the Ministry of Forests between April 1, 1986, and March 31, 1991.

Last year's five year resource program for 1985-1990 is the basis for this five year program. Aside from measures to address the major issues discussed in Part 2, a number of adjustments are included in this five year program:

(i) Expenditure forecasts are adjusted to cover cost increases since publication of last year's program.

(ii) Forecast expenditures for the Fire Suppression Program are increased from $46.5 to $50.5 million to reflect increased costs. The unusually severe 1985 fire season resulted in an expenditure of $128 million in this program, but this does not justify a large increase in the contingency funding for the program.

(iii) The unseasonally cold weather in November, 1985, killed an estimated 19 million seedlings in ministry and commercial nurseries. An expenditure of $2.0 million in 1986/87 is planned to sow replacement seedlings.

(iv) An increase of $3.0 million, shown in last year's program, for control of mountain pine beetle and spruce beetle infestations is reduced to $1.5 million for 1986/87, due to beetle mortality caused by the cold winter. The full $3.0 million increase resumes for the last four years, in anticipation of a renewed epidemic, bringing the forecast annual expenditure for beetle control to $10.0 million.

The ministry's five year resource program consists of activities and related expenditures for the minister's office and the ministry's nine programs. Each of the nine programs is described below, with an indication of size and major expenditures based on the 1985/86 budget.

Funding for the resource program is from the following sources:

(i) annual appropriations (budgets) allocated to the Ministry of Forests by the Legislative Assembly,

(ii) stumpage, payable by licensees, which is directly applied to forest management work by the licensees, in accordance with Section 88 of the Forest Act, and the

(iii) Small Business Enterprise Account of the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

All expenditures are forecast in 1986 dollars. Adjustments for future cost increases, if required, will be reflected in future resource programs.

The costs of building occupancy, paid to the British Columbia Buildings Corporation, and communications have been distributed among the ministry's programs so that the cost of each program is fully reflected.

The ministry also coordinates activities funded under the new Forest Stand Management Fund and the Canada - British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement. These activities are described in part below, to show the connections with the ministry's resource program. Table 3-B on the last page of this report summarizes the expenditures under the ministry's resource program, the Forest Stand Management Fund and the Canada - British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement for all five fiscal years.

MINISTRY OF FORESTS PROGRAMS

Management Program

The Management Program provides executive direction within the ministry.

The program spans all three levels of the ministry. At headquarters in Victoria, it includes the activities and expenditures of the executive of the ministry, Information Services Branch and Strategic Studies Branch. At each of the forest region offices, the program includes the regional manager and regional staff managers. At each of the forest district offices, it includes the district managers and operations superintendents.

Program expenditure is 4% of total ministry expenditures. Wages and salaries comprise 84% of program expenditure. Materials, supplies and expenses account for the remaining 16%.

No major changes in the Management Program are planned.

Forecast expenditure is $13.9 million in 1986/87 and future years.

Finance and Administration Program

The Finance and Administration Program provides the basic ministry infrastructure including financial, administrative, personnel, computing, technical and mechanical services.

At headquarters in Victoria, the program includes the activities and expenditures of the Financial Services, Personnel Services, Systems Services, Technical and Administrative Services and Valuation Branches. At each of the forest region offices, it includes administrative, personnel and technical support officers. At the forest district level, the program includes clerical, drafting and service technicians.

Program expenditure is 12% of total ministry expenditures. Wages and salaries comprise 61% of program expenditure, and materials, supplies and expenses account for most of the remainder.

No major changes in the Finance and Administration Program are planned.

Forecast expenditure is $38.3 million in 1986/87 and future years.

Harvesting Program

The Harvesting Program makes timber available to the forest industry through its planning and inventory, valuation, timber management and engineering components.

The overall goal is to maintain an average provincial timber harvest of 75 million m^3 per year.

In Victoria, the Harvesting Program includes the activities and expenditures of the Planning and Inventory, Timber Management, and Engineering Branches. At each of the forest region offices, it includes planning, inventory, valuation, timber and engineering personnel. At the forest district level, the program includes resource officers for inventory, timber, scaling and engineering.

During 1985/86, a budget reallocation was required to allow achievement of new goals in the Silviculture Program. The full costs of these goals were not recognized in the 1985-1990 five year resource program. The main impacts of the reallocation were on the Harvesting Program and, as a result, the full program goals were not met. Program expenditure for 1985/86 is 24% of total ministry expenditures, down from 38% in 1980/81. Wages and salaries comprise 47% of program expenditure. Road construction and other activities performed by licensees, funded under Section 88 of the Forest Act, comprise 26% of program expenditure. The remainder is used for contracts and for materials, supplies and expenses.

The Harvesting Program will return to the previously established goals. Apart from increased road construction under the Small Business Enterprise Program, no major changes in the Harvesting Program are planned.

Forecast expenditure is $92.6 million in 1986/87 and future years, including $11.8 million from the Small Business Enterprise Account.

Small Business Enterprise Program

Sales under the SBEP are made on a competitive basis, with the sale being awarded to the bidder of the largest bonus in addition to appraised stumpage. Roads and reforestation are the responsibility of the ministry.

The goal for the SBEP is to sell the allowable annual cut (AAC) of 4.9 million m^3 per year to qualifying persons and small firms.

A Small Business Enterprise Account has been established, within the government's Consolidated Revenue Fund, from which the ministry draws the money required to construct roads for future sales and to reforest and protect past sales areas. The bonus paid by the person or firm awarded a SBEP sale flows into this special account. In effect, the SBEP operates on a self-financing basis.

An increase in SBEP expenditure, from $12.0 million to $18.0 million is planned for 1986/87 and future years.

Almost two thirds of the SBEP forecast expenditure is for road construction, and is incorporated in the forecast expenditure of the Harvesting Program. Approximately one third of the SBEP forecast expenditure is for reforestation, incorporated in the Silviculture Program, and a minor amount is for fire hazard control, incorporated in the Protection Program.

Silviculture Program

The Silviculture Program restocks denuded Crown forest land and improves the value and productivity of the forest resource.

A major goal is to plant 200 million seedlings annually in 1987/88 through 1990/91.

At headquarters in Victoria, the program includes the activities and expenditure of Silviculture Branch. At each forest region, it includes the silviculture officers and, at the forest district level, it includes silviculture resource officers. Nurseries and seed orchards located throughout the province are also included.

Program expenditure is 33% of total ministry expenditures, up from 27% in 1980/81. Wages and salaries comprise 23% of program expenditure. Planting and other silvicultural treatments performed by licensees, funded under Section 88 of the Forest Act, comprise 47% of program expenditure. The remainder is used for contracts and for materials, supplies and expenses.

Significant expansion of the Silviculture Program is planned.

Forecast expenditure for 1986/87 is $135.2 million, including $7.4 million from the Small Business Enterprise Account. This is a 20% increase over 1985/86. Further increases to $145.0 million in 1989/90 are shown in Table 3-B. In addition, increasing expenditures for silviculture will be made under the Canada - British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement.

The Silviculture Program has four components: basic silviculture, intensive silviculture, nursery operations and seed operations. Each of these components is addressed separately, below.

Basic Silviculture

The basic silviculture component of the Silviculture Program includes activities to restock the on-going, current denudation of forest land by timber harvests, fire and pests. Activities include planting, site preparation, brushing and weeding and surveys.

On average, about 200 000 ha of mature and immature timber on Crown land are harvested or destroyed by wildfire each year. Significant fluctuations in the area denuded occur from year to year, due to the markets for forest products (and hence area harvested) and the severity of the fire season.

At present, about 45% of the area denuded is planted. The remaining 55% is left for natural restocking. Some of this will restock quickly and some may require up to two decades to restock. Planting will be increased so that more than 60% of current denudation will be planted and less than 40% will be left for natural restocking. This will reduce restocking delays.

The numbers of trees planted since the first resource program began in 1980 and to be planted over the next five years are shown in Table 3-A. Almost 1.6 billion seedlings will be planted on Crown forest land during the eleven year period.

Table 3-A: PLANTING ON CROWN FOREST LAND

Year	Basic	Backlog	TOTAL
	(millions of seedlings)		
Actual:			
1980/81	-	-	74
1981/82	67	11	78
1982/83	86	12	98
1983/84	96	12	108
1984/85	97	19	116
Forecast:			
1985/86	114	20	134
1986/87	131	24	155
1987/88	155	45	200
1988/89	155	45	200
1989/90	155	45	200
1990/91	155	45	200
TOTAL			1,563

Brushing and weeding will be increased with funding under the resource program and also under the new Forest Stand Management Fund. In a young forest stand, brush often competes with desired timber trees for growing space, light and nutrients. This is a major cause of failure of some plantations and of poor restocking on some areas left to restock naturally. Brushing and weeding can minimize this competition and ensure successful plantations and natural restocking.

The goals for basic silviculture, presented in the previous five year program, will be maintained. The goals for the previous fifth year will be repeated for this program's fifth year.

Intensive Silviculture

The intensive silviculture component includes activities to restock the backlog of forest land which has not restocked adequately, and to improve the value and growth of immature forests. Activities include backlog planting, site rehabilitation, spacing, fertilization and conifer release.

Intensive silviculture activities will be expanded significantly under the new Forest Stand Management Fund and the Canada - British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement. Expenditures under the agreement rise from $22.0 million in 1985/86 to $44.0 million in 1986/87 and $78.0 million in each of the following three years. Most of this expenditure is for intensive silviculture activities. Extension or replacement of the agreement beyond 1989/90 will be negotiated in the next few years.

The goals for intensive silviculture, presented in the previous five year program, will be maintained. The goals for the previous fifth year will be repeated for this program's fifth year, if the Canada - British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement is renewed.

Nursery Operations

The nursery operations component of the Silviculture Program produces all the seedlings required for basic and intensive silviculture.

The goals for seedling production are to deliver about 155 million in 1986/87 and approximately 200 million seedlings in 1987/88 and the following three years. If planting of backlog areas continues in 1990/91 at the level made possible by the Canada - British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement, about 955 million seedlings will be produced over the five year period of this resource program.

Included in the intensive silviculture component are funds to increase cold storage facilities and to complete the container conversion program in nurseries, as outlined in the Canada - British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement.

Seed Operations

The seed operations component provides seed for all nurseries. Seed is collected from both seed orchards and natural stands.

The ministry and the private sector will continue to expand seed orchard facilities to meet the goal of producing sufficient genetically improved seed for 40 million and 80 million seedlings respectively, for coastal and interior planting, by 1995.

New seed orchards will be developed. Also, a new seed centre is being built as part of the Canada - British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement.

Research Program

The Research Program provides the ministry with the scientific knowledge and methods needed to achieve its objectives effectively and efficiently.

The program includes the activities and expenditures of the Research Branch in Victoria and research officers at the forest region offices. Activities include applied research, technical consulting services and research extension services.

Program expenditure is 3% of total ministry expenditures. Wages and salaries comprise 69% of program expenditure. The remainder is used for contracts and for materials, supplies and expenses.

A small change in the Research Program is planned. A Fish/Forestry Interaction Program will be implemented in the second through fifth years of the resource program.

Forecast expenditure is $9.8 million in 1986/87 and $9.9 million in the following four years. In addition, under the Canada - British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement, research activities will be expanded and facilities will be upgraded.

Protection Program

The Protection Program reduces damage to the forest and range resources by wildfire and pests.

The overall goals are to keep the area burned by wildfire below 69 000 ha and the timber volume loss below 2.6 million m^3 each year.

The program includes the activities and expenditures of Protection Branch in Victoria, protection officers at the forest region level, and protection resource officers at the forest district offices. The Protection Program provides fire and pest management services for the reduction of timber losses, the protection of private property and the maintenance of environmental values.

Program expenditure is 7% of total ministry expenditures. Wages and salaries comprise 44% of program expenditure. Most of the remainder is used for contracts and for materials, supplies and expenses. A small amount is spent by licensees under Section 88 of the Forest Act for pest surveys and controls.

Apart from a planned increase in bark beetle control, no major changes in the Protection Program are planned.

Expenditure is forecast at $27.7 million in 1986/87 and $29.2 million in the following four years. In addition, pest management will be addressed under the Canada - British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement.

Fire Suppression Program

The Fire Suppression Program provides fire-fighting services for the control of wildfires. The program is linked closely to, and supported by, the Protection Program, but is managed and funded separately.

Although actual expenditure varies with the severity of the fire season, the budgeted program expenditure is 14% of total ministry expenditures. Wages and salaries comprise 8% of program expenditure. Program expenditure is primarily for contracts for air tankers and helicopters, and for fire fighter wages. Along with materials, supplies and expenses, these depend on the severity of the fire season.

No major changes in the Fire Suppression Program are necessary.

The budget for each year is $50.5 million. This reflects the policy of including sufficient contingency funding in the budget to match the expected expenditure in most years.

Range Management Program

The Range Manangement Program protects, conserves and develops Crown rangelands and manages their use.

The program's major goal is to continue to provide at least 934,000 Animal Unit Months (AUMs) of forage to the ranching industry each year.

The program includes the activities and expenditures of Range Management Branch in Victoria, range officers in forest region offices and range resource officers at the forest district level.

Program expenditure is 1.5% of total ministry expenditures. Wages and salaries comprise 62% of program expenditure. The remainder is used for contracts and for materials, supplies and expenses.

Increases in Range Management Program expenditure are planned for 1987/88 and future years to provide more weed control, forage seeding, range improvements and a better range inventory. Together, these actions will maintain rangeland capacity and eventually result in increased quality and quantity of forage for the livestock industry.

Forecast expenditure is $5.3 million in 1986/87, rising to $6.6 million in 1990/91.

Recreation Management Program

The Recreation Management Program maintains and enhances recreation resource values and provides sites and trails for public use on Crown forest and rangeland outside parks.

The program includes activities and expenditures of Recreation Management Branch in Victoria, recreation officers in the forest region offices and recreation resource officers at the forest district level.

Program expenditure is 1.3% of total ministry expenditures. Wages and salaries comprise 59% of program expenditure. The remainder is used for contracts and for materials, supplies and expenses. A small amount is spent by licensees under Section 88 of the Forest Act for site and trail development.

Increases in Recreation Management Program expenditure are planned for 1987/88 and future years to improve resource management, provide more maintenance of existing recreation sites and trails, and develop some new sites and trails. This will ensure protection of recreation resource values and provision of facilities to meet demands.

Forecast expenditure is $4.5 million in 1986/87, rising to $6.0 million in 1990/91.

RESPECTIVE ROLES OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR

The ministry, in concert with the private sector, implements programs approved by the government. The ministry also measures performance.

The private sector carries out activities and treatments on Crown land under contract to the ministry.

It is ministry policy to utilize the private sector wherever possible. The role of the private sector in implementing the ministry's resource program will continue to increase.

SUMMARY

Increased emphasis on planting, to improve reforestation performance, continues to be the main change in the ministry's five year forest and range resource program. Almost 1 billion seedlings will be planted in the next five years.

Other major developments, emphasized and described in the 1985-1990 resource program, will continue:

(1) Road and bridge construction will increase under the Harvesting Program.
(2) Intensive silviculture activities will increase significantly under the Canada - British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement.
(3) Efforts to control infestations of mountain pine beetle and spruce bark beetle will increase.
(4) Efforts to control the spread of knapweed on rangeland will increase.

Four new developments are described in this resource program for 1986-1991:

(1) The new Forest Stand Management Fund, established with contributions from the provincial government and other sources, will provide for forest and range resource management activities, including brushing and weeding, intensive silviculture and employment initiatives.
(2) Road construction and reforestation under the Small Business Enterprise Program will increase substantially.
(3) Rangeland capacity and forage quality will be maintained and increased.
(4) Management of recreation resources and facilities will be increased to meet resource needs and public demand.

All of these developments will involve the private sector extensively. Many of the activities will be implemented by private firms under direct contract to the ministry and by licensees funded under Section 88 of the Forest Act.

Forecast expenditures for the resource program, the Forest Stand Management Fund and the Canada - British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement are presented in Table 3-B.

Table 3-B: THE FOREST AND RANGE RESOURCE PROGRAM

Program	Budget[1] 1985/86	Forecast Expenditure 1986/87	1987/88	1988/89	1989/90	1990/91
	(thousands of 1986 dollars)					
Minister's Office	160	190	190	190	190	190
Management	13,830	13,890	13,890	13,890	13,890	13,890
Finance and Administration	37,710	38,280	38,280	38,280	38,280	38,280
Harvesting	86,030	92,570	92,570	92,570	92,570	92,570
Silviculture	111,660	135,210	141,490	143,180	144,980	144,980
Research	9,760	9,800	9,930	9,930	9,900	9,900
Protection	25,500	27,750	29,250	29,250	29,250	29,250
Fire Suppression	46,500	50,500	50,500	50,500	50,500	50,500
Range Management	5,230	5,250	5,800	6,450	6,550	6,600
Recreation Management	4,430	4,520	5,440	5,440	5,630	5,990
Sub-total	340,810	377,960	387,340	389,680	391,740	392,150
Forest Stand Management Fund[2]	-	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
FRDA[3]	22,000	44,000	78,000	78,000	78,000	-
TOTAL	362,810	441,960	485,340	487,680	489,740	412,150

Notes:
1. Includes salary savings of $4.0 million.
2. Includes the provincial government's contribution for 1986/87, expected to continue in the following years. A similar or greater level of contribution is expected from the forest industry and other sources, but is not included here.
3. Canada - British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement. Includes shared and direct expenditures by the provincial and federal governments. It may be replaced in 1990/91.